

**VENONA**  
**~~TOP SECRET~~**



USSR

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**WARNING ABOUT WORKING WITH MISHELA (1944)**

From : MOSCOW

To : STOCKHOLM

No. : 754

21 Apr 44

*This number appears to be an editing one and should be omitted in future versions*

According to the [R% NEIGHBOURS][SOSEDI][i] information, MISHELA[ii] in 1942 openly carried out anti-soviet propaganda, expressed the intention of committing acts of terrorism against the communists and the [R% Commissars] and regretted that he had not gone away [with][a] the Germans. According to the records [1 group unrecovered] at our place, MISHELA [1 group unrecovered] [R% the naval] NEIGHBOURS[SOSEDI]. Find out the exact circumstances of his signing on [KONTRAKTATsIYa]: when and by whom was he recruited on the island of OSEL[iii] and with whom did he have connections? Telegraph the results [of your enquiries][b]. Be careful when working with MISHELA.

No. 1628

VIKTOR[iv]

Notes: [a] The preposition has been omitted by the originator. 'With' and 'to' are the two possibilities. Of these 'with' seems the more likely and has therefore been inserted.

[b] Inserted by the translator.

Comments: [i] NEIGHBOURS : Members of another Soviet intelligence organization

[ii] MISHELA : Unidentified. Possibly a garbled version of the French Michel (MISHEL). The final 'A' might be due to a misreading of an unfamiliar word by the cipher clerk.

[iii] OSEL : Island, otherwise known as SAREMA, which lies at the entrance to the Gulf of Riga.

[iv] VIKTOR : Lt. Gen. P. M. FITIN.

**DISTRIBUTION**

*No for conversation  
with LIA officer -  
of Gen. P. M. FITIN*